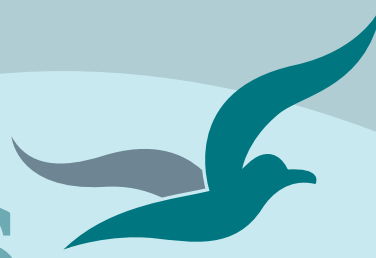


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Waipu Rugby Club has no senior teams this season but 180 registered junior players

For the first time in as many years as most people can remember Waipu does not have a senior rugby team. Club President Ryan Hall said that in recent times it has become increasingly difficult to find enough senior players.

Northland Rugby stipulates that clubs with teams in the Premier competition must also field a reserve squad, which makes it even harder to find sufficient players. He said last year the club's management committee took the decision to drop out of the Premiership and field a Division One team instead which does not require a reserve squad, but even this proved impossible to achieve.

Mr. Hall said the club has very competitive Under 18 and Under 14 teams and, with 180 registered junior players, is the third of fourth biggest junior club in Northland.

He said, "We are in a rebuilding phase and are committed to developing our local players."

The Waipu Men In Kilts team for over 35 year-old players is also strong and enjoys good public support. In addition the annual end of year touch tournament draws as many as 400 junior and senior players.

Waipu will be hosting a junior tournament this Saturday 24 April.

Waipu RSA ANZAC dawn ceremony at the Waipu cemetery



As the first glimmers of daylight appear in the sky to the east, Dave Wistrandt, President of the Waipu RSA, recites the Ode to the Fallen with the lines: "At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them".

The Waipu ANZAC dawn ceremony was held at the Service Men and Women's section of the Waipu Cemetery from 6.30am on ANZAC morning, Friday 25 April 2025. A surprisingly large group of observers gathered in the dark for the ceremony.

More pictures of Bream Bay ANZAC remembrance services on page 9



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- A member of the Northland Regional Council's Sub Committee - Audit, Risk and Investment
- NRC representative on the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Committee
- A member of the Northland Regional Council's Biodiversity & Biosecurity and the Natural Resources Working Party

Please contact me by phone or email

09 432 0741 or 021 823 770
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EDITORIAL

The pendulum is swinging

If everyone living in Bream Bay had the concern and commitment to their neighbours and community as did Terry O'Meara what a great place this would be! I was so impressed with the way Terry reacted to his cancer and bowel surgery by becoming the Northland President of the Northland Ostomy society helping others to come to terms with this change in their life circumstances.

Terry had been a long time member of the Marsden Bay Lions Club and was known around his Ruakākā south neighbourhood as someone who was available to lend a hand when needed.

He was a tradesman and had those vital practical skills that keep the world turning. Terry liked to be busy and on his retirement he set up a workshop making beautifully crafted wooden toys.

He had a 57-year-long loving marriage to Sandra. In their younger days, as well as bringing up their own three daughters, Sandra and Terry cared for a series of thirteen foster children, one of whom they adopted as their fourth daughter. I believe it takes very special people to do this job and think about what great role models these two would have been to all those children.

I have just returned from my Sunday morning walk on the beach. There were four or five rod fishermen trying their luck and seagulls squabbling over snapper heads so it must have been a pretty good morning. It was gratifying to see that none of those fishers had felt the need to drive down onto the beach in a big black 4wd as many do. Perhaps the beach fishing contest organised by Clayton Denize for the end of the school holidays on 26 April had demonstrated that there is another way. There were lots of ugly, tyre tracks thoughbreaking up the wave patterns on the sand.

What a turnaround in both the Canadian and Australian elections with the centre left Liberal Party's victory in Canada and yesterday Anthony Albanese's Labor Party's resounding win over the Coalition whose leader Peter Dutton ran what has been described as a "Trumpian" campaign. After right wing parties seemed to be getting the upper hand in elections around the globe perhaps the pendulum is swinging in the other direction. It seems as though watching the Trump administration in America people can see how disastrous, destructive and cruel extreme right wing governments can be.

The Local Government elections in September might give us an indicator of whether this trend has arrived in New Zealand. I am wondering if the Mayor of Kaipara Craig Jepson will continue to proudly describe himself as "The Donald Trump of the North."

Marilyn

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No Sand Mining message loud and clear at NRC meeting in Waipu



Malcolm Morrison ,of Bream Bay Guardians, tells Northland Regional Councillors that the only beneficiary of sand mining in Bream Bay would be McCallum Brothers Ltd.

The Northland Regional Council got a clear message from the people crowding into the Waipu Cove Surf Lifesaving Club House on Tuesday 22 April for the Northland Regional Council monthly meeting : many Bream Bay residents are strongly opposed to sand mining in Bream Bay.

Malcolm Morrison of the Bream Bay Guardians told the Councillors the only people who would benefit from the sand mining would be McCallum Brothers Ltd. There was nothing in it for Northland or Northlanders. He said the argument that Bream Bay sand was needed to support development in Auckland didn't stack up as there is in fact an over supply of sand there already.

When asked by Councillor Jack Craw if this included sand currently being dredged at Pakiri Mr. Morrison replied it did not as there is enough sand from other sources, quarrying and land based mining to supply Auckland.

He told the meeting that Bream Bay's sand is a closed

system and with no sand coming in it is a finite resource. He questioned the assertion by McCallum Brothers Ltd. that the dredging would be so far out it would not have an impact on the Bream Bay dunes system.

"When my grand children dig a hole in the sand it very quickly fills up again with surrounding sand moving into it."

Mr. Morrison told the Councillors that the Gaurdians of Bream Bay had established a fighting fund and had a team of experts who would be willing to help the NRC with monitoring if the McCallum Brothers application is granted.

Barbara Leeuwenberg representing the "Combined Communities of Bream Bay against Marine Sand Mining" presented two active petitions hosted by Action station and with a combined 15,000 signatures to the Council.


Continued on page 4

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The Last Song – A Heartfelt Local Comedy with a Karaoke Twist!



The Cast (with a few missing) of The Last Song

Written by Kate Louise Elliott and directed by Blair Strang, The Last Song is a hilarious comedy that celebrates the spirit of a small community in the Whangarei District—and their shared love for karaoke.

Featuring a talented cast of 18 local performers, this feel-good, lively production runs from July 24th to August 2nd at the Waipu Coronation Hall. All proceeds will go toward Linking Hands, helping fund the purchase of a much-needed vehicle. Linking Hands provides essential transport services to connect individuals with medical and well-being appointments throughout the region.

Tickets on sale soon!

LETTERS

For us Waipu will always be home

Waipu, what a great and wonderful community. Kay and I arrived in 1974 – by chance – and have never looked back.

Our fifty years in Waipu has been awesome and we would like to thank all for having us over this time. Yes we have been involved with the community always having a keen interest in creating a better, cleaner, tidier and more beautiful place to live.

We would like to thank you for the afternoon tea and catch up as we depart Waipu and move on. We love Waipu and for us will always be home.

The acknowledgement we received for our volunteer work is greatly appreciated however, we must acknowledge the huge amount of volunteer hours put in by others in the community the likes of Waipu Fire, Lions, Schools, Churches, Waipu 2000, Menzshed, Bream Bay Community Patrol, Waipu Ratepayers, Business Association, Caledonian Society, Piroa Trust and cycle-way just to name a few.

We are just a couple of cogs in a wheel that keeps Waipu the special place it is.

We move on in the comfort of knowing that we have done our bit.

Remember the people, the people, the people – he tangata, he tangata, he tangata – is what makes the community.

Thanks to you all.

Ron and Kay Dixon

No Sand Mining message loud and clear at NRC meeting in Waipu *Continued from page 3.*

She called on the NRC to oppose the sand mining proposal and to ensure that independent assessments are provided to the decision making panel. To Publicly acknowledge the risks to Bream Bay's ecosystems, marine habitats, surf breaks, scallop beds, and species such as the critically endangered tara iti – the New Zealand fairy tern.

To support mana whenua in their efforts to protect their rohe moana and to uphold the intent of Te Tiriti o Waitangi by ensuring meaningful consultation, which to date has been severely lacking.

She concluded, “The voices in these petitions are not fringe. They are reasonable, informed, and growing louder by the day. They're asking you – as stewards of this region – to protect what is precious and irreplaceable and to represent the interests of our region at any hearings or consultations with the EPA or Fast Track decision-making panels and pursue appeals if necessary.

This Council has an opportunity to demonstrate leadership, foresight, and respect – for the environment, for tangata whenua, and for the people of Northland.

Bream Bay is not just sand. It is not a quarry. It is home, it is habitat, it is heritage. It is a living system. And it is not for sale. It deserves your protection”

NRC Deputy Chairperson Tui Shortland told the crowd that the NRC had opposed the Government's Fast Track Bill. She said the Northland Regional Plan had been cast aside and the NRC would have an advisory role only in the decision on the McCallum Brothers Ltd. sand mining application and then only if they were invited to do so.

The decision would be in the hands of three government appointees.

Despite the NRC not having control over whether or not the McCallum sand mining application is granted and not being able to set the conditions if it is granted the regional council will be charged with monitoring the dredging activity at the expense of Northland ratepayers.

Stop the sand mining campaigner Emma Hart – Northland people will have to pay for something they never wanted and will derive no benefit from.

**Phone the BREAM BAY NEWS 027 432 0070
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if you know of something interesting going on
in Bream Bay.**

Update on the Ruakākā Energy Park and, soon to be built, solar farm at the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers' AGM

Robert Batters and Mike Wilson from Meridian Energy will be guest speakers at the Ruakākā Residents and Ratepayers Annual General Meeting in the new Recreation Centre in Peter Snell Rd. on 13 May 2025 at 7pm.

They will be giving an update on the Ruakākā Energy Park, where work is about to get underway on a new 130MW solar farm that will produce enough energy to power over half of Northland's homes in an average

year.

Around 250,000 solar panels are to be installed on sites between Port Marsden Highway and Marsden Point Road. Construction will run through to early 2027 and is expected to create employment and contracting opportunities. It also includes 30ha of native habitat and wetland restoration that will provide substantial environmental benefits and additional contracting opportunities.

A 97% rate increase for some lifestyle block owners under WDC "preferred option."

Some lifestyle block owners would be getting a 97% increase in their rates while for some of the properties in town their rates will go up just 1% Whangarei District Council Deputy Mayor Phil Halse told the Waipu Resident and Ratepayers meeting last week.

The Whangārei District Council has stated in its consultation document that keeping the Universal Annual General Charge at \$500 and then charging a higher percentage on land value is its preferred option for its 2025 – 2026 annual plan.

Councillor Halse told the meeting that this might change during the consultation process.

Submissions on the Council 2025 – 2026 rating options closed on Friday 2 May. The Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association has asked to present a submission at the annual plan hearings and will be pointing out that the lower AUGC and higher land value charge disadvantages many Bream Bay land owners many of whom live on lifestyle blocks, on farms or on high value coastal properties.

The Waipu RRA submission will argue if charging those with higher valued land a higher rate is an attempt to help people who are struggling financially, it is a very clumsy one.

It will tell the hearing that In Bream Bay we have young families who own lifestyle properties who are not wealthy people. We have families living in caravans or makeshift cabins as they work hard to raise enough money to build homes on their land and it seems unfair that they should be penalised for the land they own.

"What's more many owners of residential property on low value land are landlords who would be unlikely to lower rents in response to their lower rates bill."

At last week's meeting Neil McLeod also raised an objection to the storm water charge on all properties.

He pointed out that farmers and lifestyle block owners take care of their own stormwater and, in fact, every three years or so he has to clean out a drain on his property where silt and metal accumulates from run off from the Council owned road

Mr. McLeod also asked why the owners of land zoned for industrial use at Marsden Point should be offered grants, which would be funded by rural and commercial ratepayers.

Councillor Halse said that there were several blocks of land in that area which, although zoned as industrial were unable to be developed due to a lack of capacity in the Ruakākā wastewater plant.



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Kay and Ron Dixon's farewell afternoon tea - an opportunity for the community to say thank you

"Waipu was good to us", said Ron Dixon at the farewell afternoon tea held for him and his wife Kay at the Waipu Celtic Barn on Wednesday 30 April.

"Well you and Kay were very, very good for Waipu", replied Graham Boulton of Waipu 2,000, which had organised the event.

Ron and Kay lived in Waipu for 50 years but have recently moved to Whangārei to be closer to their two daughters.

The family arrived in the town when Ron, a qualified diesel mechanic, got a job at Sommers Transport. They stayed on when he went to work at the refinery where he remained for the next 33 years. For 40 of those years Ron was an active member of the Waipu Fire Brigade.

Kay was, in fact, one of the instigators of the Waipu 2000 organization, which has been overseeing the upkeep of Waipu town since 1992.

She described how she had gone along to a meeting called by Government officials who asked what local people wanted for Waipu after the bypass around the town went in.

Kay was Waipu's postie, a job she had held for 32 years from 1986, and while she was riding about delivering mail she had noticed that some parts of the town looked "a bit scruffy." When she was invited to make a suggestion about what was needed in Waipu her idea was "a clean up group".

Waipu chemist Tony Solomon was

another founding member of Waipu 2,000 and he and Kay collaborated on many ventures.

Kay - "We did lots of fundraising. We cleaned out units at Ranburn, we sold pies." Kay has many memories and stories to tell such as the time the local radio station ran a competition offering the town's National Bank Manager as a "slave for a day."

Fire Chief Alby Whyte won but offered his "slave" to the Waipu 2000 group and the Bank Manager was sent to pick up rubbish, do some mowing and sweep the street.

Kay recalls Alby made the most of the joke and sat there watching with a big whip.

Kay and Tony (and sometimes Weenie, Tony's wife, took on the job of emptying



Ron and Kay Dixon with Graham Boulton of Waipu 2000 at the afternoon tea in the Celtic Barn on Wednesday 30 April. The gathering was an opportunity for the Waipu community to show Ron and Kay its appreciation for all the voluntary work they had carried out in the town over the 50 years they lived there.

rubbish bins over long weekends when the town was overflowing with visitors. One evening while Tony was on the job newly arrived Waipu Four Square owner/operator Steve Price mistook him for a homeless person and offered him some hot pies.

Waipu 2,000 was able to secure contracts for mowing and garden maintenance from the Whangārei District Council, which enabled them to employ a series of caretakers for the town. Kay has photographs and fond memories of them all. Tony and Kay, and Ron when he was needed, continued to lend a hand working alongside when and where they were needed.

Waipu 2000 employs Alan Nordich, Waipu's current caretaker who has been in this job for over 20 years. Many believe this local control is the reason for Waipu's overall well-kept appearance.

Whangārei District Council Deputy Mayor Phil Halse paid tribute to the vision of Kay and Tony in forming the trust and securing the Council contracts. He said the arrangement has been working well from when it was first made in 1992.

Steve Jones, as Waipu's RD contractor spent many years alongside Kay sorting mail in the cramped confines of the back room of the Waipu Post Shop. He said Kay had been a big help to him and wife Lyn when they first took over the RD run. "We came from a farming background and knew nothing about delivering mail. Kay knew everyone and if there was mail addressed a bit vaguely Kay usually knew where the person it was meant for lived.


Steve said he and Kay "had had their moments" but at the farewell had only good things to say about Kay and Ron

"They were always on the other end of the phone and always willing to help.

If we needed people to put out chairs or pack them away after an event they would be there.

Kay and Weenie had helped make the kilts for Waipu's Men in Kilts rugby team and then took care of their washing and ironing after the big, often very muddy, games.

Around 80 people attended the afternoon tea to personally thank Ron and Kay for all their hard work and to wish them well in their new life.



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Police Report

81-year-old found drink driving twice on the same day

An 81-year-old Auckland man is facing possible imprisonment after being found drunk driving twice on the same day. The man was stopped on State highway one at Waipu at 2pm on 22 April and returned a breath test reading of 833 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath. The legal limit is 230 micrograms. He was automatically suspended from driving for 28 days and opted to phone someone to come and drive him home. However at 3.50pm Police once again stopped him, this time while driving on The Braigh in Waipu. He was breath tested once again this time returning a result of 723 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath. He has been charged with two counts of drunk driving and one count of driving while suspended. As he has previous drink driving convictions he could now be facing a jail term.

Police find big cannabis stash in Waipu

Police were called to a disturbance at a property in Waipu at 1am on 28 April and while there discovered Bream Bay Police were called to 14 family harm incidents over the fortnight 21 April to 4 May man is being spoken to about this.

More drink driving incidents

- At 10am on 23 April a 32-year –old Maungaturoto man was stopped and breath tested in Maungaturoto. He was found to have a breath alcohol level of 600 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath and will be appearing in court on a drink driving charge.
- At 10am on 29 April a vehicle was stopped for speeding on Sh1 at Waipu. The driver a 58-year-old Maungaturoto woman was found to have a breath alcohol level of 596 micrograms of alcohol per litre of breath and will be appearing in court as a result.

More thefts from the Marsden Cove haul out facility

There have been more thefts from the boat haul out facility at Marsden Cove. The facility is fitted with security cameras but this does not seem to be deterring the thieves

Fourteen Family harm call outs

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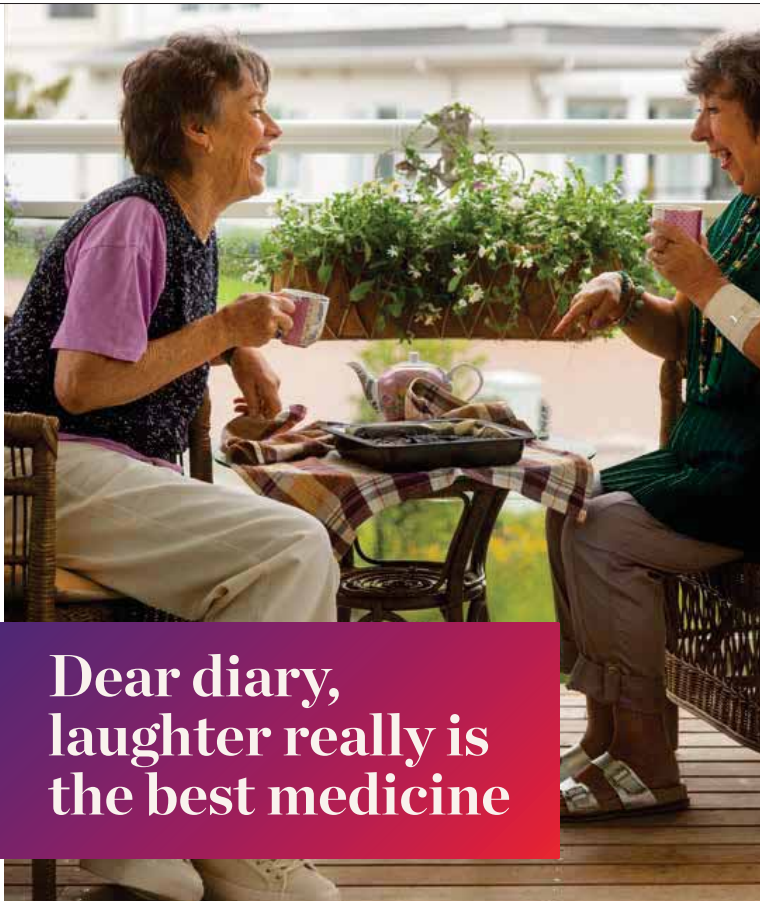
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A service desk also operates 10am to 11am on Saturdays in the Ruakākā Library.

The islands in Te Ākau (Bream Bay)

By Lydia Draper



On the horizon from the beach at Uretiti: Tarama, and Marotiri Islands with Tūturu (Sail Rock) to their right. In the far right and in the distance is Hauturu o Toi (Little Barrier Island) New Zealand's first nature reserve.

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Monthly Resident and Ratepayer group meetings

THE RUAKĀKĀ RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The Ruakākā Parish Residents and Ratepayers Association meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the new Ruakākā Recreation Centre building in Peter Snell Rd

THE WAIPU RIDING RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

The Waipu Residents and Ratepayers Association meets at 7pm on the last Wednesday of each month in St Peters Church, Nova Scotia Rd. Waipu.
 Please email: waipurra@gmail.com if you would like to attend a meeting and address the committee members.

Taranga (Hen), Marotiri (Chickens) and Tūturu (Sail Rock) are a familiar presence on the horizon of Te Ākau. Depending on the angle, Marotiri may look like one island, but it is actually a cluster of eight.

At its peak Taranga soars at 417m; the tallest elevation of Marotiri is Māuiroto Island at 234m and Tūturu curves in at 139m. Approximately 18,000 years ago, when sea levels were at least 100 metres lower than they are now, the islands were hills surrounded by a vast coastal plain. Sea levels began to rise 7,000 years ago, rising high enough to separate the islands from the mainland.

The islands are located 22km from the coast, with the Tasman and Subtropical Fronts lapping at their shores. The eastward flow of the currents splits at the northern tip of Aotearoa and continues down the east coast. The islands are regarded as a high ranking ecological area, both above and below water. Despite this ranking, there has only been a small number of scientific investigations into their marine habitats. A reef fish survey published in 2002 recorded 72 species, which placed it as one of the more diverse sites in Te Tai Tokerau (Northland).

Threatened species that can be found in the waters surrounding the islands are tohoraha (Bryde's whales), terehu (bottlenose dolphins) and kākahi (orca). Popokanua (common dolphins, which are not threatened) can be spotted there too. Kekenos (New Zealand fur seal) are present in small numbers as transient visitors. Also with a transient presence are Upokohue (pilot whales), false killer whales and some of the large baleen whales.

Landing ashore Taranga and Marotiri is by permit only and must be for research purposes. The Department of Conservation (DOC) manages access and issues permits in line with conservation priorities and their partnership with Ngātiwai. According to DOC, 'Taranga was first declared a scenic reserve in 1908 under the Scenery Preservation Act 1903. Later, in 1925, additional legal protections were extended

to Marotiri as scenic reserves. In 1953, the islands were reclassified as wildlife sanctuaries under the Wildlife Act, reflecting growing recognition of their biodiversity value. Today, the islands are officially classified as nature reserves, offering the highest level of legal protection for conservation under the Reserves Act 1977. These changes reflect evolving conservation priorities over time.'

Identified as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International, the islands are home to endemic seabirds such as tīeke (saddlebacks) and about 500 breeding pairs of Pycroft's petrels. Tuatara, also endemic and the last surviving member of its family of reptiles, live on the islands too.

The islands border several tribal boundaries. Patuharakeke to the west. Learning the pūrākau (ancient stories) of the islands is a wonderful way of strengthening our connection to them. In Māori mythology, the name Taranga is attributed to the mother of the demi-god Māui. Māui was born prematurely and Taranga thought, mistakenly, that he was stillborn. She cut the topknot from her head and wrapped his body in her hair. Calling upon the sea god Tangaroa to take him, she threw Māui into the waves. Tangaroa and the sea goddess Hine-moana bore him on their backs and swept him swiftly along the coast where he was found by his uncle, Tama-nui-ki-te-rangi who raised him as his own son.

One day Māui decided to find his mother. After many months of searching he came across a pā and quietly entered. Inside, his mother was standing behind his four brothers. When she learned that this young man was her son, her eyes filled with happy tears. Māui-tiki-tiki-a-Taranga was happy too, for he had finally found his mother.

Perhaps it was the warmth of the Tasman and Subtropical Fronts that kept Māui alive as he was swept down the coast and into the arms of his father.

Bream Bay ANZAC ceremonies



Kortez Hita-Duval represented Bream Bay College at the annual ANZAC ceremony held at the Takahiwai Marae and laid a wreath at the base of the flagpole in front of the whareniui.

A big crowd of gathered in the meeting house Rangiora to hear about the military careers of Paraire Henare Pirihī and George Willard Pirihī who had both served in the Maori Battalion in World War 11 and Robert Ezra Pirihī who had served in the military since that time.

Following the wreath laying people walked across to the Urupa alongside to visit and lay flowers on the graves and memorials of service men and women. The service was hosted by the Pirihī whānau and not the Epiha whānau as was mistakenly stated in the 24 April issue of the Bream Bay News



Supported by Ranburn nurse Angela Stolwerk, Daniel McGoldrick steps up to lay a wreath at the base of the Waipu Cenotaph



The parade arrives at the Cenotaph for the Waipu ANZAC service



The KW singers, led by Anne Connelly-Munt at the Waipu ANZAC service

Phone the **BREAM BAY NEWS** 027 432 0070
 or email: breambaynews@xtra.co.nz if you know of something interesting going on in Bream Bay.

“One minute we are in drought and the next we are flush with grass.”

Grass growth for this time of year is phenomenal says dairy farmer Simon Couper. The warm wet weather has seen a late autumn surge in growth.

The sentiment is echoed by Helmsdale Rd farmer Graham Hargreaves although all the April rain has caused a problem in his low lying paddocks where grass was resown after the maize harvest. Germination of the grass seed has been impeded by pools of water forming on the surface of the ground. Graham said this pasture will recover in time without the need to resow. “It will just take a bit longer, that’s all.

Lisa Jones who runs a dairy farm with her husband Dylan north east of Waipu said they are really happy with the grass growth.

One minute we were in drought and the next we are flush with grass.”

Despite the heavy rainfall over the past through weeks the ground has been able to soak it all up without paddocks turning boggy.

Over 400 millilitres of rain were recorded in Waipu last month



The warm wet weather has caused good grass grown on farms

Northpower

Updates from your electricity network

Northpower electricity consumers to receive discount payment

Northpower electricity consumers will soon receive their second instalment of a total of \$15.8 million in pricing discounts thanks to Northpower and the Northpower Trust.

The first instalment was paid in November 2024, and this is the second instalment of the 2024/25 discount payment.

The Northpower Pricing Discount is made possible with the support of the Northpower Electric Power Trust, which owns Northpower on behalf of Northpower’s consumer beneficiaries connected to the Northpower electricity network.

The Northpower Trust says it is satisfying to see Northpower’s consumer beneficiaries continuing to benefit from the consumer ownership model that has existed since 1993. Over this time Northpower has returned over \$278 million to electricity consumers in Kaipara and Whangarei.

Northpower Trust Chair Phil Heatley has welcomed the discount, and the way that it flows

A breakdown of your power bill	
Opening balance	\$0.00
Current charges (inc GST)	\$180.00
Northpower pricing discount (inc GST)	-\$155.17
Total amount due	\$24.83

back directly to electricity consumers in Kaipara and Whangarei.

“We hear from our consumer owners that they appreciate the discount payment each year, it’s the way that we have done things since the Trust was established, and as Trustees we view it as an appropriate way to reward consumer owners,” Mr Heatley says.

Most residential and business customers connected to Northpower’s electricity network will benefit from a discount which will be calculated on their individual usage. This payment will be up to \$155 including GST, on top of the payment made in November of around \$150.

Northpower Chair Mark Trigg says he is pleased with the level of discount, and the fact that it has increased over the time that he has been working with Northpower’s Board.

“Over the past 8 years we have seen the discount increase from around \$120 to \$305 this year, which has been possible due to the improved financial performance and growth achieved by Northpower over the years,” Mr Trigg says.

In future years, Northpower will be making a single payment in May each year, so the next payment will be May 2026. This change to payment timing is required to meet accounting and tax compliance purposes, where discounts should be paid after the end of the financial year. As a result, there will be no discount payment in November/December 2025.

The discount will be shown as a credit on customers’ May or June electricity bills and will benefit over 63,000 current customer connections on the Northpower network.

To qualify as eligible, consumers must have an active network connection as of 1 May 2025. Full details of the eligibility criteria and how the discount is calculated are available on Northpower’s website www.northpower.nz/for-home/pricing/northpower-pricing-discounts/

Councillor Rick Stolwerk - standing for a fourth term on the NRC

Rick Stolwerk, who represents the Coastal South area of Northland including Bream Bayon the Northland Regaiona; Council has announced he will be standing for this seat again in this September's Local Government elections..

He said there are a number of reasons for this decision.

He would like to continue to support the work of the Piroa Conservation Trust and to see a predator free corridor extending from the east to the west coast. He said Piroa Conservation has already expanded its predator control work from the 400 hectares where it began and now covers 25,000 hectares and he would like to be able to help secure funding for the predator control work to extend into another 15,000 hectares.

He wants to work for more marine protected areas n the form of marine reserves or rahui areas in Northland.

The Navigation Safety Bylaw is currently under review and he would like to see this completed.

His fourth reason for standing



Councillor Rick Stolwerk

is that as a fourth term councilor he would provide some stability for the Northland Regional Council which he hopes will run smoothly in its next term.

Postal voting in the 2025 Local Government Elections begins on 22 September with the final day for voting on 11 October.

NRC rates increase likely to be less than proposed in its Long Term Plan

The Northland Regional Council is likely to set its annual rate below the 5.79 percentage increase proposed for the 2025/2026 financial year its 2024 – 2025 Long term plan. The increase is likely to be around 5.2%.

Asked how this was possible when prices everywhere are rising, Bruce Howse, the NRC's Group Manag-

er of Corporate Services said, "we have been looking hard at where we can potentially make savings."

The NRC will not be going out to consultation on its 2025/2026 annual plan as this will stay in line with what was proposed in the second year of the Long Term Plan.

NRC fund open for applications

The second round of the Northland Regional Council's Climate Resilient Communities Fund is now open for applications

The fund aims to build community resilience to the effects of climate change by focusing on local needs and community-led solutions. The NRC has \$600,000 to invest in projects that meet the funding criteria, and eligible groups can apply for between \$5,000 and \$40,000 plus GST.

Applications must be for projects in Te Taitokerau and from a legal community entity, such as hapū or iwi groups, community or neighbourhood groups, education providers, social enterprises and not-

for-profit businesses.

The fund will support projects focusing on: food resilience, water resilience, energy resilience nature-based resilience and planning for resilience.

Applications close 3 June 2025.

For more information and to apply, visit www.nrc.govt.nz/climateresiliencefunding

The Bream Bay Coastal Care Trust was successful in gaining a \$23,000 grant from this fund last year and is working with weed control expert Mike Urlich and the Patuharakeke Taiao group to clear weeds from four sites in the Bream Bay duneland.



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	AM		PM	
Thu 8 May	4.14	2.4	4.48	2.3
Fri 9 May	5.04	2.4	5.40	2.3
Sat 10 May	5.50	2.4	6.27	2.4
Sun 11 May	6.33	2.4	7.09	2.5
Mon 12 May	7.13	2.4	7.49	2.5
Tue 13 May	7.51	2.4	8.27	2.6
Wed 14 May	8.30	2.4	9.04	2.6
Thu 15 May	9.09	2.4	9.42	2.6
Fri 16 May	9.49	2.4	10.22	2.5
Sat 17 May	10.31	2.4	11.04	2.5
Sun 18 May	11.15	2.4	11.49	2.5
Mon 19 May	~	~	12.03	2.4
Tue 20 May	12.38	2.5	12.54	2.4
Wed 21 May	1.30	2.5	1.49	2.4
Thu 22 May	2.24	2.3	2.49	2.4
Fri 23 May	3.20	2.6	3.52	2.5

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THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 22 May
The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
Wednesday 14 May

MUSIC NIGHT 2025

20 MAY IN THE AUDITORIUM 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

\$5 STUDENTS \$10 ADULTS

Bream Bay College wins Northland Showquest



The Bream Bay College winning entry was inspired by the story of Pandora's Box

Bream Bay College won the 2025 Northland Showquest senior competition held at Forum North in Whangārei on Thursday evening 1 November with a well rehearsed performance inspired by the story of Pandora's Box. Students Laura McCullough, Jess Jacobs, Chloe Smith, Kiani Rogers, and Megan Botha, worked collaboratively to write and choreograph the winning piece, centred around the theme: "Let your curiosity be greater than your fear." The message concluded with the idea that at the bottom of the box, there is always hope.

Approximately 60 students, from Year 7 right through to seniors in Year 13, were involved in the production, as performers, stage crew, and in support roles.

Rehearsals began in Term 1 and included lunchtime practices, after-school sessions on Mondays and Tuesdays with Margi Martin the school's new dance teacher and Sunday rehearsals with Performing Arts teacher Jenni Thornhill.

There were also some intensive sessions during the school holidays with Ms. Martin and Vicky Shandil.

Visiting international teacher Yana commented that on the night of the performance she was blown away by the students' talent, motivation, enthusiasm, and teamwork. Showquest is a nationwide performing arts competition and a platform for youth voices to be heard. Students design, produce and perform their stories combining Art, Music, Dance, Drama, Culture and Technology.

Bream Bay College has a strong history of success in Showquest including a number of regional wins and some national awards.

In 2019: the college team was Highly Commended in the national competition winning drama and music awards.

In 2023 the Bream Bay won three national awards for "Night at the Museum" — Best Costume and Enhancement, Best Theme, and the Outstanding Rangatahi award

And in 2024 it was placed second in the Northland regional senior division with awards for Best Choreography, Best Live Music, Best Drama, and Best Lighting for "Voices for Women"

There were five other entrants in this year's Northland competition: Dargaville High School, Tauraroa Area School, Te Kamo High School, Pom-pallier College and Excellere College.

THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE
 of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 22 May
 The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
 Wednesday 14 May

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\$20 per ticket

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Carleen Still
 Kylie Austin

Waipu Citizens & Services Club

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 going on in Bream Bay.

Hammer Hardware Celebrates Local Hero: Coach of the Year Jonny Woodhead - Waipu's local hardware store backs community sport and honours a coach making a real difference

Waipu, Northland — Local community cornerstone, Hammer Hardware Waipu, proud sponsor of the Bream Bay Sports Trust Coach of the Year (BB COTY) award, is celebrating the everyday heroes shaping lives through sport.

Alana and Dean McCarthy, owners of Hammer Hardware Waipu, said the decision to sponsor the award was an easy one.

"Sport plays such a vital role in our community. It teaches initiative, resilience, dealing with adversity, supports mental health, encourages learning, respect, and most importantly—it brings people together," says Dean.

Long-time advocates for the positive impact of sport on children and adults alike, Alana and Dean see supporting organisations like the Bream Bay Sports Trust as an investment in the health and strength of the local community.

Alana and Dean also extend their recognition to all the nominees for this year's Coach of the Year award, acknowledging the passion, time, and commitment that each coach contributes to their athletes and communities.

"Each of these nominees plays a powerful role in shaping lives and building strong community foundations through sport," Alana said.

They are especially thrilled to congratulate Jonny Woodhead of Bream Bay Brazilian Jiu Jitsu – Hold Down Gym, winner of the 2024 Coach of the Year Award.

"In small towns like Waipu, community is everything. We believe in backing the people and groups who help make our region a better place to live. Coaches don't just build better athletes—they help shape better humans," adds Dean.

Jonny Woodhead exemplifies this spirit. He is making a highly positive impact on local youth—especially those who find school and relationships challenging—by giving them skills to manage hard times, and



Alana and Dean McCarthy of Hammer Hardware with Coach of the Year, Jonny Woodhead.

helping build their mental strength and focus. These lessons ripple out into improved behaviour and confidence in other areas of life.

He has created a warm, welcoming, and supportive community where men, women, and children feel safe to learn, grow, challenge themselves, and be part of something meaningful. Under Jonny's guidance, the Hold Down Gym has grown into a space where personal development thrives alongside athletic achievement. Jonny also competes—and coaches others to com-

pete—on both national and international stages. Recently, the club placed 4th out of 69 gyms across New Zealand, with members bringing home numerous gold, silver, and bronze medals.

He is a true local hero, and this recognition from the community is well deserved. Hammer Hardware is proud to support the Coach of the Year Award and to stand behind the people who uplift our region through sport, leadership, and heart.

Mental Fitness + Physical Fitness = Life Fitness

Hold Down BJJ Gym is all about building personal and community growth and resilience

Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ) as a sport is accessible and enabling for all ages.

For kids and teens the structured format of the sport in a safe and encouraging environment helps build strength of character and positive patterns for focus and responsibility.

For all ages, the sport provides fitness and agility.

At Hold Down, everyone's journey is supported.

Whether you're just starting or levelling up, our community is here to grow with you.

Book in for free intro first Monday or Tuesday of the Month or arrange a visit



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 Ruakaka - Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday
 Teenage and Adult Fundamentals Classes
 Mangawhai - Monday and Wednesday
 Ruakaka - Tuesday and Thursday

Adult and Youth Advanced Classes

Mangawhai - Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
 Ruakaka - Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday morning

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 First Monday and Tuesday Each Month
 OR, Txt to arrange visit
 027 788 8006

Mangawhai - 168 Blackswamp Road, Mangawhai 0505
 Ruakaka - 3 Princes Road

WHAT'S ON IN BREAM BAY

- **COUNTRY SINGER /SONGWRITER DONNA DEAN** with bassist John Dodd and multi-instrumentalist John Egenes in the Waipu Heritage School at 4 Halifax Drive on Friday May 16 from 7pm. Tickets \$25 available at humnaitix.com and at the door.
- **ORGAN CONCERT** at St Peters Church, Nova Scotia Drive, in Waipu on Sunday 18 May at 2pm. Auckland organist John Carter playing favourites. Also local singers Kaiser Jacoby and Adara Lunjevich accompanied by Anne Connolly - Munt. Tickets \$10 at the door.
- **BREAM BAY COLLEGE MUSIC NIGHT.** Tuesday 20 May from 6pm -8pm. In the Bream Bay College auditorium. Tickets at the door. Students \$5, Adults - \$10. adults
- **CARLEEN STILL AND KYLIE AUSTIN** at the Waipu citizens and Services Club . Saturday 7 June at 7pm. Tickets \$20. Fundraiser for the Waipu Fire Brigade.
- **BREAM BAY MUSIC GROUP** First Monday of every month starting at 7pm At the new Rec Centre in Peter Snell Road, Ruakaka Contact Ross or Fulco on 0274 410 584
- **COMMUNITY BINGO** every last Wednesday each month (except December) Every one welcome. Raffles, restaurant and Bar open from 5 pm Calling starts at 7.30 pm 15 games and 2 jackpots open to the public. At the Waipu Citizens and Services Club
- **WAIPU MUSEUM** 36, The Centre, Waipu. Open seven days 10am- 4pm
- **THE KAURI MUSUEM.** . The Kauri Museum is open 9am-5pm every day

Terry O'Meara

26 November 1943 – 19 April 2025



Terry in 2020 when he was named Ruakākā Citizen of the Year

Terry O'Meara was someone who could be defined by the service he gave to his community.

Soon after he and his wife Sandra moved to Ruakākā with their three daughters in 1976 Terry volunteered as a Scout leader and became a member of both the Ruakākā School PTA and the St John Ambulance Committee. He joined the Marsden Jaycees where he held the positions of both Secretary and President. He became a Marsden Lion in 1985 and for 27 years played an active role in the many community projects undertaken by the Lions. He served terms as President, Secretary and Bulletin Editor.

For many years Terry and Sandra shared their home with foster children assisting 13 different children at difficult times in their lives. In 1981 they adopted the last of their foster children.

Terry was a fitter and turner by trade and came to work at the Marsden Power Station after working at the Meremere station. From 1987 he spent two years employed at the BP Service Station on State Highway One and another 19 years at the engineering company SPI, contracted for five of those years to the New Zealand Refining Company store.

On his retirement he set up Terry's Toy Shop at his home basement, making a variety of mainly wooden toys that he gave away or sold at very cheap prices saying his aim was to make children happy. He also maintained a Swap a Book cupboard in front of the house next to the Oasis Store and had the reputation of being the go to man for handyman jobs in his Ruakākā South neighbourhood.

Terry underwent surgery for bowel cancer in 2017 and Sandra commented how his "wonderful, positive attitude" had helped to pull him through this serious health challenge.

Continuing his lifelong habit of helping out where he could, Terry joined the Ostomate Society and became President of the Northland branch sometimes meeting with people who had recently undergone bowel surgery to help them adjust to their new condition.

In 2020 Terry was named Ruakākā Library Citizen of the Year. Terry and Sandra were married for 57 years. Sandra described Terry as her "rock" and wonders how she will get on without him by her side but says she knows his love will continue to guide her.

Terry is also survived by his four daughters, three sons in laws, 15 grandchildren and seven great - grandchildren.

Sandra said as she and Terry were very much members of the Ruakākā community she wanted to hold the service here, rather than in Whangārei.

Hundreds of people attended a service to remember Terry in the Ruakākā Memorial Hall on Thursday, with many more watching the service on line.

BREAM BAY EVERY THURSDAY

Link

MORNING		
9.00am	Departs	Kaiwaka Kaiwaka Hall
9.15am	Departs	Mangawhai Village Village Shops Bus Stop (by restrooms)
9.20am	Departs	Mangawhai Heads I-Site
9.35am	Departs	Langs Beach Corner of Wairahi and Cove Roads
9.40am	Departs	Waipu Cove Beach Car park
9.50am	Departs	Waipu Monument Bus stop
10.10am	Departs	Ruakākā Peter Snell Road (opposite Takutai Place)
10.50am	Arrives	Whangārei Rose Street Bus Terminus

*For travel within Whangārei see CityLink Whangārei timetable www.citylinkwhangarei.co.nz or get your timetable from the Rose Street office.

AFTERNOON		
3.00pm	Departs	Whangārei Rose Street Bus Terminus
3.40pm	Departs	Ruakākā Peter Snell Road (opposite Takutai Place)
4.00pm	Departs	Waipu Monument Bus stop
4.10pm	Departs	Waipu Cove Beach Car park
4.15pm	Departs	Langs Beach Corner of Wairahi and Cove Roads
4.30pm	Departs	Mangawhai Heads I-Site
4.35pm	Departs	Mangawhai Village Village Shops Bus Stop (by restrooms)
4.50pm	Arrives	Kaiwaka Kaiwaka Hall

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FARES	One Way	Return
Kaiwaka	\$7.00	\$10.00
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Mangawhai Heads	\$7.00	\$10.00
Langs Beach	\$7.00	\$10.00
Waipu Cove	\$6.00	\$8.00
Waipu	\$6.00	\$8.00
Ruakākā	\$5.00	\$7.00

ROUTE DESCRIPTION
Kaiwaka/Mangawhai Road, Molesworth Road, Mangawhai Heads Road, Cove Road, The Centre Waipu, Nova Scotia Drive, SH1, Marsden Point Road, Peter Snell Road, Marsden Point Road, SH15A, SH1, Otaka Road, Maunu Road, Walton Street, Rose Street Bus Terminal.

If you would like to be picked up elsewhere along the route, please phone Leabourn's to arrange this on the Wednesday before you want to travel.

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Concert at St Peters



Organist John Carter

Auckland Organist John Carter will perform on the new organ in St Peters Anglican Church in Nova Scotia Drive, Waipu on Sunday 18 May at 2pm. He will play his own selection of favourite music.

Local singers Kaiser Jacoby and Adara Lunjevich will present a wide variety of music from Schubert and Scarlatti to stage shows such as Wicked and Little Shop of Horrors.

They will be accompanied by Anne Connolly - Munt.

Tickets are \$10 and afternoon tea will be served after the concert.

Friends of the Organ, FOTO, who funded the purchase of the Johannes Opus 377 organ for the church are the concert organisers.

Waipu Tennis Club Report

By Paul Ramsay

More successes on the national stage for Waipu tennis club members. Three of the 4 members who won silver for Northland Men's 60+ team at the NZ National Seniors teams event held in Tauranga over a wet Easter weekend were from Waipu. Life member Greg Miller captained the team, coach Grant van Dalsum and Sam Marsh were other Waipu members involved.

Wendy Jambor won gold in the Women's 30-40 age group playing for South Auckland. Neil Baudinet won gold for North Harbour in the Men's 65+ event. Well done to these players and others who took part. Northland won the John Mickell trophy for the best club with Gold medals in the Men's 50+ event and the Women's 65+, Silvers in the Men's 60+ and the Women's 60+ Blue team. Four out of Seven Northland teams medalled.

Meanwhile Tennis carries on through the winter months on Tuesday nights at 6pm. Winter is the ideal time to learn to play or change something in your game so you are ready for the summer season. Despite it being a bit cooler winter evenings are often ideal for tennis with little wind and often settled weather.

Remember to check our Facebook page for what is going on at the club.

PUBLIC NOTICES



Have your Say!

Wastewater Treatment Plant Interim Solutions Option Poupouwhenua Reserve

The Ruakākā Wastewater Treatment Plant is approaching the limit on the amount of wastewater it is consented to discharge into existing consented areas. This is affecting Whangārei District Council's ability to process consents for new development in the area.

The construction of a new treatment plant and discharge facility is underway but not due for completion until 2030.

Council is considering a range of interim solutions to the capacity constraints. One possibility is to discharge treated wastewater via spray or dripline onto two reserve areas beside the existing treatment plant.

We're keen to hear from members of the community about how they use that area, and any comments they might have about how use of that area for wastewater discharge might affect that use.

How to have your say:

Please go to:

www.wdc.govt.nz/HaveYourSay

You can provide feedback online, by email, by post or in person.

The feedback survey opens on 09 May and closes at 4pm Tuesday 20 May 2025.

What happens after that?

We have booked a Community Information Session for 12 July from 10am to 2pm at the Ruakākā Recreation Centre to explain the direction we are taking and how your feedback influenced that decision.

*Ka aroha tātou ki te ako tahi –
We Love to Learn Together*



Term 2 - Out of Zone Enrolments 2025

The Ruakākā Board of Trustees invites applications from whānau of out of zone pupils who wish to enrol their tamariki at Ruakākā School for 2025.

Details of our zones can be found on our school website.

The Board has determined that 15 places are available for out of zone students for 2025.

We currently have 8 positions available.

Priority 2 – siblings of current siblings; 3 – siblings of former students;

4 – child of a former student; 5 – children of board employees or a child of a board member; 6 – all other students.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, 30 May 2025.

If the number of out of zone applications is more than the number of place available, students will be selected by ballot. If a ballot is required, it will be held on Wednesday, 23 October 2024. Parents will be informed of the results of the ballot within three days of the ballot being held.

Please download application forms from our website or contact the school office:

Phone 09 432 7503 / Mobile 027 432 7503

Email: office@ruakaka.school.nz

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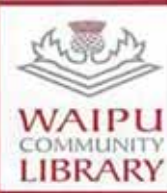
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 Thursday, Friday &
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 Phone 432 0375

SOCIAL SERVICES

Safeman Safe family Men's Centre

Safeman Safefamily offers a safe place for men to talk privately without judgement and with complete confidentiality. We are peer led and professionally supported and offer a range of services and support for men and their families.

The services we provide are as follows:

- Advocacy Navigator
- Court support
- FGC Support
- Probation Community Service Provider
- Legal Advice
- Marriage Celebrant
- House and property blessing
- One to one counselling
- Drug and Alcohol support
- Anger management group sessions
- Supervisor for court ordered access
- Work brokers/ help with employment opportunities.

No appointments are necessary, we have an open door policee - if you need help or know someone that does just come on down to: **9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā.** We are right next door to Jimmy's Barber Shop or I can be reached by phone 021 121 0763 - Phil Paikea

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Services we provide:

- Registered Social Workers
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- Youth Workers
- Youth Holiday Programme
- Counsellors
- Community Connectors (Connecting community to various services)
- Free Whanau Ora Medical Clinic with Ki A Ora Ngatiwai. Wednesday mornings 10am-12noon, by appointment only phone 09 435 4586
- Free Budgeting Service -fortnightly on Thursdays 10am-1pm, by appointment
- Mana Wahine Ki Wahine Toa & Ha Tane groups
- Community Gardens behind our main building please help yourself
- Pataka Kai/ Food Pantry located outside our reception door.

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THE NEXT PUBLICATION DATE

of the Bream Bay News will be Thursday 22 May
 The deadline for all copy is 4pm on
 Wednesday 14 May

SITUATIONS VACANT

THE MAINTENANCE is looking for someone who is fit and reliable, with a good work ethic, and is interested in waterblasting, painting, gutter cleaning and other outside work. Call Tony, 021 196 2949



We are looking for Support Workers in the Bream Bay area to care for one of our clients who receives 24/7 care with each shift lasting 12 hours. We are seeking someone with the flexibility to work days, nights, and weekends. The candidate must be willing to accompany the client to appointments in Auckland as needed. For more info please Email: jia.mulder@tlc4u2.co.nz 027 518 4212 Jia Mulder (Recruitment Coordinator)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTHPINE COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

This committee meets periodically to review the environmental performance of the Northpine timber manufacturing plant in Waipu, in consultation with representatives of the local councils. Any Waipu resident with concerns about the environmental effects of the Northpine plant should notify the Northpine office (432 1155). Concerns will be recorded, considered and subsequently reviewed by the liaison committee. The Independent chairperson of the liaison committee is Steve Goldthorpe 0274 849 764.

Waipu Volunteer Fire Brigade needs you !

Waipu Volunteer Fire Brigade is looking for guys and gals to join our close-knit team who are passionate about helping their community in a time of need.

Being a Firefighter is an amazing way to give back to your community and be part of an amazing supportive team at the same time.

For more information pop on down to the station on a Monday night from 7:30 to have a chat with our team or send us a message on our Facebook page.

PUBLIC NOTICES

WAIPU COMMUNITY LIBRARY AGM

To be held at the Library
49 The Centre
Waipu
On Friday 9 May at 1 pm
All Welcome

Marsden Bay Garden Club



Monthly Meetings held 3rd Thursday of the month.
ALL WELCOME
1:00 pm – Ruakākā Hall – Sandford Rd
Contact – Secretary – 0210515581

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE RUAKAKĀ RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION


To be held in the New Recreation Centre - 3 Peter Snell Road, Ruakākā at 7pm on Tuesday the 13th of May 2025.

Our special guest speakers for the night will be Robert Batters and Mike Wilson , Project Managers for the Ruakākā Solar Farm. There is a lot of community interest in this project so this will be a good chance to catch up on what is happening.

Also Anna Curnow will give an update on the Ruakaka Waste-treatment plant.


Membership fees of \$10:00 will be due on or before the 13th of May.
Bank account number to pay online is 030498012911800

Waipu Beekeepers Association AGM



Date: Tuesday 13th May 2025
Start: 6pm - Social time
Place: Waipu Presbyterian Church Hall 50, The Centre, Waipu

MARSDEN YACHT AND BOAT CLUB, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



25th May, 12.00pm, At the Club House BBQ Lunch and Prize Giving.



Bream Bay Medical Centre Ltd. Ruakākā Town Centre, Ruakākā

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Marsden Cove Medical Centre 1A Ngawaka Lane, One Tree Point

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To register, phone 09 4327 692 (leave a message) or email – seniornetbb@gmail.com

BREAM BAY SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

Presbyterian Camellia Ave, Ruakaka: 8.45am. The Centre, Waipu: 10.15am. Prayer Service: 7pm

Encounter 223 Marsden Pt. Rd, Ruakaka, 10am.

Anglican - ST PAUL'S Church, 25 Karawai St, Ruakaka 1st and 3rd Sundays 9.30am
ST. PETER'S CHURCH, 8 Nova Scotia Dr., Waipu 2nd and 4th Sundays, 09.30am


Catholic Holy Family Church, Ruakaka, 10.30am. Mass or Liturgy of the Word

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